

The New Housatonic Camera Club Newsletter

Member: New England Camera Club Council
<http://www.housatoniccameraclub.org/>

Editor: Ian McCunn
Webmaster: Lazlo Gyorsok

☐ "Peace starts with a smile" ☐

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, December 14, 2004



7:00 PM Sharp

The Life Long Learning Center
(Wagner Building on the Left)
Noble Horizons
Salisbury, Connecticut

"Peace"

Work For It.
Never Give Up.
One World - One People



This Evening's Program

"Close to Home
and
Far Away"

Featuring: "The One, The Only . . .
Sidney X. Shore ! ! !"

Our man from Sharon is seemingly a bottom-
less pit of information, talents and human interest.

Tuesday, December 14, 2004

The title of tonight's topic is in itself typical of the man. Mysterious? Yes. Puxxeling? Uh-huh. But be assured; you will learn something new, be entertained and yes, amused. Questions welcomed!



Also Tonight

"Our 2nd NECCC Competition"

Bring with you:

2 Nature SLIDES

2 Color Slides

2 Black & White and / or 2 Color Prints

- (Prints must be mounted)

(See Rules Enclosure with the September N/L)

Judges tonight:

- Lazlo Gyorsok
- Chris Bleuher
- Sid Shore



President's Corner

I was sorry to have missed our annual dinner. Please think about how well you enjoyed it. How did it compare with Noble Horizons? At our next meeting I think that we should discuss this and take a vote on where to hold our next dinner.

Is there anyone who would like to take over the publicity for us? It entails sending a notice to several papers to tell them of our monthly meetings and outings. Not much but it must be done. Lazlo suggested we have a photo day at the Millbrook Zoo. Sounds like a good idea. Think about it. We will have our competitions at tonight's meeting and I have selected some judges: Lazlo, Sid Shore, and Chris Bleuher. If you can not make it let me know and I will get someone else. Also, do you think it would be a good idea to have a session where we all look at a beginner's pictures and help by discussing them? Amongst us we have experience and much to offer. For that matter, we can all benefit. Rita 🍏

"Photo Hints and Basics #10"

By Rita W. Mathews

This time I will talk about macro work. It is a good time of year to get started on learning how to do this if you have never done it before. Inside or out, you can start on a table with flowers or other small objects. It is a good way to practice and get used to this new method. Macro images are photographs that appear the same size or up to 50 times life size. Their size is usually referred to as the reproduction ratio or RR. If the film image is the same size as the object the RR is 1:1 or 1X, if it is 2 times the size of the object it is 2:1 or 2X. You can determine your own ratios: the 35mm film is 24mm high and 36mm wide. 24mm is about 1 inch so if your subject is 1 inch high and covers the entire height of the film the RR is 1:1 or 1X. If your subject is 6 inches high and covers the entire height on the film the RR is 1:6. If your subject is 1/2 inch high and covers the whole height on the film then your RR is 2:1.

The distance between the lens and the subject is called the free working distance and as you focus closer this distance becomes shorter. I mention this because the shorter the distance the less light there is on your subject which means you have to open up your lens and thereby shortening your depth of field. The fun of this photography is to juggle the depth of field, the RR, the light, the working space, and the focusing. There can be no vibrations thus a steady tripod or other strong camera holder is a necessity as is a cable release or an electronic one. A macro lens is invaluable and they come in several sizes starting at about 50mm, 105mm, 200mm and I have a 70-300mm macro, which I love, as I do not have to get too close to my subjects. To increase the size of your object (i.e. the RR from say 1x to 2x) use extension rings and this formula: $RR \text{ (magnification)} = \text{Total extension used divided by the focal length of the lens}$. For instance; If you want to do 1/2 life size with a 105mm lens you would use an extension tube that is 52mm wide so that $52/105 = 1:2$. Conversely if you wish to make your subject at 2x life size you would use 105 mm of extension tube and a 50mm lens so that $105/50 = 2:1x$. To get any bigger you would have to use a bellows arrangement.

There are all sorts of gadgets you can buy to help you in this, a good item is *the plamp*¹ that will hold a plant still if the wind is blowing, even a gentle breeze wrecks everything. Since you will need some extra light in order to keep your aperture at large numbers (small size) to protect your depth of field; you can use a reflector white, gold or silver or a fill in flash. Fill in flash must be subtle and usually not one that is integral to the camera since you cannot set it as low as need be. At automatic fill flash if you set it to minus 7 you should be OK. Most of us have through the lens light meters so set it on A or aperture and use f22 or f16. There are also supplementary close-up lenses that are really magnifiers that can be used. If you have none of these you can buy a reversing ring that attaches to your camera so you can reverse your lens. Think about it; your normal lens makes the object small enough to fit on the 35mm film and if you reverse it the size of the object will be enlarged on your film! Have fun!

Rita 🍏

¹ **Go to:**

<http://www.naturephotographers.net/gs/gswimplamp.html>

Learn about the *The Wimberley Plamp*. See a photograph of the device in action. Something that I never heard of. Am I alone here? Then explore the rest of the site. If you are a nature photographer this will be right up your alley. Their "*Terms of Service*" are extensive and very explicate regarding copyright and trademark laws of the United States. Therefore I have refrained from copying and printing anything from their site. I would have no qualms paying a visit with Martha Stewart mind you, but not on a prolonged basis.

I will however, make one copy of *the plamp* to show our members who do not have access to the internet.

Credit: Nature Photographers Online Magazine, Inc.
P.O. Box 1404
Patchogue, NY 11772
James Erhardt, President

• By Fax: (631) 289-2369

• By e-mail: editor@naturephotographers.net

Ian McCunn 🍏

Snacks and Stuff

Santa may be on hand to help with refreshments this evening. Seems that I remember a certain member with "*the right stuff*" who could fill this position.

Good health and Happy Holidays to all from the entire HCC Newsletter Staff. 🍏